

**Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting
Twin Cities Chapter of the American Guild of Organ
January 27, 2020**

Present: Jacob Benda, Joyce Brown, Liisa Keranen, Jessica Park. Andrew Paulson, Phil Radtke, Christopher Stroh, Joseph Trucano

Absent: Tom Ferry, Dave Geslin, David Jenkins, Diana Lee Lucker, Cynthia Mortenson

Also present: John Setterlund

Call to Order by Sub Dean Jacob Benda at 6:30 PM, St. Paul Seminary

Chaplain Setterlund shared reflections on gender equality highlighting the Feast Day (Jan.27) for Dorcas, Phoebe, and Lydia.

The agenda for the meeting was approved.

The Minutes of the November 25, 2019 Board Meeting were approved.

Report: The Budget Report was given by Jacob Benda. Expenses are to plan.

Report: Secretary Report given by Joyce Brown.

The nominating committee is being assembled and chaired by Mary Jo Rieder. They will be working on the slate of candidates for the 2020 election.

Report: Program Committee report given by Jacob Benda.

-The work continues on the Regional 2021 Convention. The budgets and programs are being worked on and will be finalized by February 15. Work is being done on an additional "add on" day trip to Collegeville.

-On February 7, Eric Plutz will present an all Vierne program at the Basilica in Minneapolis.

-The Pipe Organ discovery day will be February 22 at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Shoreview. It will be a day long event.

-The Bach Birthday Bash will be March 21 (Bach's birthday!)

-The Student Competition will be held on March 28 at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, 3045 Chicago Avenue S. in Minneapolis.

-Cameron Carpenter will be performing at Northrop Auditorium on March 27, 28 with the Minnesota Orchestra. The Board is looking at having a table representing the AGO at the concert.

-Dean Billmeyer will present a program on April 21 at Northrop Auditorium.

-French organists Oliver Vernet and Cédric Meckler will present a program of duets at St. Andrews Lutheran in Mahtomedi on April 24.

Report: Dean's report given by Jacob Benda

-The Nominating Committee Chair, Mary Jo Rieder has assembled her committee. Members are Samuel Backman, Dee Ann Crossley, Mary Newton, and Joseph Trucano.

-John Varona has agreed to fill the board position vacated by Cynthia Mortenson.

-There is need for someone to join Phil Asgian on the Audit Committee. They should have relevant experience, but not necessarily a CPA.

-The "Bach Birthday Bash" programs are in need of ushers. The board is asked to help out.

-The Dean would like board members to consider sponsoring a small group meeting in their area of the metro this summer. The goal is to bring AGO members together and perhaps invite new people.

-There was a discussion regarding our current Membership Brochure from 2012. A new updated one is needed. The purpose of the brochure is to promote membership. It should be available to hand out at AGO events and other co-sponsored AGO events. There was a discussion on the current brochure and many suggestions to updating it. Included ideas were better pictures carefully selected representing different ages, genders as well as different kinds of pipes organs and denominations. It was also suggested that the brochure highlight the value of membership, and the resources available to members.

-The Board discussed our system of enrolling and renewing memberships. National headquarters will begin using a new system in March 2020 for renewal and enrollment of members. It is called Impexium. Using this system would simplify our current dual system of some members renewing through National and some locally with Wild Apricot. It is suggested that the TCAGO join the rest of the AGO chapters in the country in using this system starting May 1, 2020. The membership coordinator and the registrar will work with individuals who do

Motion: Joseph Trucano moved to have the TCAGO begin using the Impexium national system in May 2020.

Second: Andrew Paulson

Motion carried.

-The Pipenotes newsletter is a valuable benefit for our members. Along with emails and postcard mailings, members are kept up to date on chapter events as well as local and national event of interest. The Pipenotes newsletter, in printed form, is sent to the Minnesota State Historical Society as the historic record of the chapter's proceedings, accomplishments and impact on the community. Currently in our membership renewal, members can opt in for a digital newsletter. This has saved the chapter money in printing and postage costs. Of our 300 active members, about 50 members opt to receive the printed copies. We have a budget of \$1000 annually for printing and mailing these newsletters. Our revenue from the advertisements in the Pipenotes was \$1187.

Motion: Christopher Stroh moved that the TCAGO phase out the printed Pipenotes and go to digital dissemination starting with the August 2020 issue.

Second: Phil Radtke

Motion carried.

-The Board discussed issues with the print directory and the relevance of having it in paper or digital form. The issue of keeping it up to date was also mentioned. It was suggested to make the directory available in digital form and have a pdf copy for those who would like it in print.

Motion: Andrew Paulson made a motion to phase out the printed directory mailed to members and replace it with a downloadable directory.

Second: Joseph Trucano

Motion carried.

Motion: Phil Radtke moved to adjourn the meeting.

Second: Joeseeph Trucano

Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00.

Joyce Brown, Secretary